GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7373
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
GUIDELINES FOR EMPLOYMENT VISA
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing guidelines for employment visa including for the skilled workers;

(b) whether the security aspect of the country was taken into consideration while reviving the guidelines for employment visa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a): As per the extant guidelines, an Employment visa may be granted to a foreigner if the applicant is a highly skilled and/or qualified professional who is being engaged or appointed by a company/organization/industry/undertaking in India on contract or employment basis. The basic principle that the Employment visa shall not be granted for jobs for which qualified Indians are available.

A minimum annual income of US$ 25,000 is insisted, except the cases of foreigners working in Embassies, those working as ethnic cooks or teachers of any foreign language other than English and foreigners working on honorary basis in NGOs registered with India.

(b) to (c): Mechanism is in place to verify names of visa applicant against the match lists. There is also a mechanism of 'Prior Clearance' before issue of 'E' visa to foreigners of certain specified nationalities. At present, 'E' visa is not given to nationals of Pakistan. Statement is laid on the Table of the House.